

Census and Economic Information Center

Montana Department of Commerce

Release Highlights: October 2, 2008

MONTANA

2007 Consolidated Federal Funds Report

http://ceic.mt.gov/cbep.asp

Amidst all the discussion of using taxpayer money to bailout financial institutions, a pertinent question may be – what does the federal government spend its money on? Data released today by the U.S. Census Bureau shows in 2007, \$2.6 trillion were disbursed to all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. holdings such as Puerto Rico and Guam. In the 21st century, nearly \$17 trillion in taxpayer money has filtered through the national economy back to businesses, governments and consumers. These federal expenditures encompass such financial disbursements as social security checks to retired people, procurements via contracts to private businesses, crop insurance to farmers, wages and salaries to federal civilian and military personnel, food stamps to the poor and research grants to universities.

For 2007, Montana received \$8.5 billion in federal monies, a 6% increase from 2006. Retired and disabled persons were the largest Montana recipients of federal monies in 2007 with \$2.8 billion. Grants for training, scholarships, research, technical assistance, plus other activities amounted to \$2.2 billion. Montanans employed by federal agencies such as the Social Security Administration, U.S. Post Office, Forest Service and Veterans Affairs received \$1.0 billion in wages and salaries.

In the 21st century, federal expenditures grew by 43.5% in the Big Sky state, totaling \$58.4 billion. This graph illustrates how Montana and its neighbors fared.

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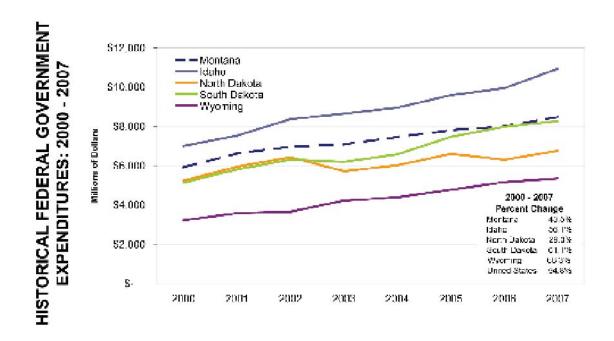
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WHAT'S NEW

September 23, 2008

American Community Survey (ACS): Social, Economic, and Housing Profiles, 2007

August 28, 2008 Income, Poverty, Health Insurance Estimates, 2007



For links to more detailed data visit CEIC's web page at: http://ceic.mt.gov/cbep.asp